

STORBRITANNIEN

Den 22 oktober (enl. Londonradion)

The Times

points out that although the Berlin elections were merely to choose municipal councils, they were in effect a plebiscite for or against the Communist party and by implication for or against Russia. And, says the Times, four fifths of all Berliners rejected Communism and Russia. The moral of the result is plain for the Russians to see. But, says the Times, Communism does not bow to majority voting. Last year's votings in Hungary and Austria were equally decisive rejections of Communism. Their effect however, was merely to sharpen Russian policy in those two countries.

The Daily Mirror

says that the presence of a democratic way of life clearly expressed in the Berlin elections puts a new responsibility on the occupying powers. They must make democracy a reality in Germany, which is at present far from the case. If they do not, and a break-up of Germany comes, the Germans will blame the very democrats for whom they have now voted.

Den 24 oktober (enl. Londonradion)

British newspapers this morning link the speech by President Truman at the opening of the U.N. General Assembly with those by Mr. Attlee, Mr. Bevin and Mr. Churchill during the British House of Commons debate on foreign affairs.

The Times

says that this meeting of the General Assembly marks the real start of the U.N. work. The paper deprecates any tendency to treat the U.N. with cynicism or unconcern merely because of the troubled state of the world and owing to recent deadlocks in the Security Council. Relations between the Great Powers have special value for the economic approach to European problems and the desirability of closer association between the nation of Western Europe.

Commenting on Mr. Churchill's question in the House of Commons as to whether there were over two hundred Soviet divisions on a war footing in European occupied countries, the Times says it is distressing that confidence between Allies should have declined to the point where they publicly debate each other's state of mobilisation. But the matter was started by the Russians with a similar request to the Security Council about British and American forces. The incident shows how important it is that,